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BLOOMFIELD, N. J., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY, 21, 1896.

Subscription Two Dollars Per Annum.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

VOL XVI. INTER NO. 2.

A SERMON ON SLANDER neighbor." Sunday after Sunday we meet them wherever you go." They Chuich, February 16, 1896. Pubished by Lequest.

and lesson for this Qu'nguage ima while we are saill within the church, are parted, families discupted and a Sunday. It is the lesson of charity, toat charity which covers the whole circle of .elacionship in which we stand, proceeding from love for God to love for our fellow man.

Last Quinguagesims Sunday I spoke to you of charity in our judgfood enough for reflection. ments of our fellow men. To-day I would speak to you of charity in our falsehood, a sin contemptible in its speech concerning our fellowmen.

It is an old offender that stands today at the bar of conscience. One that has been found guilty of the foulest wrongs; one that has laid plots against the purest characters, blasted the peace of households and disrupted the most prosperous par-

about from house to house, dropping fully spoken with slanderous intent. Nor farther go. slander as they went. And yet you The deadliest poisons are those for could not pe hap? fasten upon any which no test nor antidote has ever Another voice has bresthed it clear, word or senience, and say that it was been discovered, so is it with the mal- And so it wandered round wholly false, for there may be just a grain of truth in the slander, enough The deadly poison of the slanderous to prevent it being called wholly false—and therein lies its des ructive- cannot trace the actual slander, since ness, fo half truths are enfold more half truths are far more dangerous fruitful of evil and calumny than than whole falseboods—nor is there whole falsehoods. It is not necessary that a word should be spoken even, merely a significant look, a shrugged shoulde., or even an emphatic stence stop its deadly work. Closely allied

are spoken to, but rather how we as the touch of an infected hand

row would be lifted from the world. her helplets. Who does not know Evil speaking is indeed a vide far, the power of such insinuations? Who vice words that I fear would be ap- dark." There is not a sadder feature our land, not even excepting our own. ness with which Ch stian people

are little. Whether have some real or fancied glievance.

g-in at a b. o.ue.'s shame,

We men are a little breed,'

much of the teaching of the New on fire the course of nature, and is it Testament bears directly on this sin of evil speech. St. James in the 3rd pun sament, another apostle foretells, chapter of his epistle gives a descript when he says they are "wandering tion of the tongue which opens to us stars to whom is reserved the blackthe whole connection of our speech ness of darkness forever." with the inner man. This mervel-

Words, my friends, are things. The word painting of St. James is lisr from the beginning, and finds its cial correspondence and other documents the so exact concerning this form of evil congenial task in slaying innocence which will give the United States Venetricity directly from coal, without the air, though we seem to think they speech that none can fail to recognize and undermining character, how fearare. We speak them and forget it when he speaks of the "wander- fel a curse it is. Ah, if we would only them. Yet each word came from ing from house to house, no. only remember our Lord's words when we

"By thy words shalt thou be justi- speaking things which they ought neighbor, "I say unto you that every mean by that. At any rate, they must fied and by thy words shalt thou be not." condemned, is a sentence of Se ipture | Every community has some of these shall give account in the day of judgfew ever think of. Yet the Scripture social persons of so disinterested a ment, for by thy words thou shalt be only echoes the experience of our character that they spend much of justified and by thy words thou shalt conscience and our life" From the their valuable time in entertaining be condemned." And may our condays of Moses all along down the their neighbors with tales derived too stant prayer unto H'm be, "Let the ages there has sounded in the ears of often from their wonderfully vivid words of my mouth be always accept-

listen to this command and when we seem to be a sort of a detective force have heard it on our knees we say, self-commissioned to gather the float- path's papers in The Arena he men-"Lord have mercy upon us and in ing gossip of the neighborhood; and cline our hearts to keep this law"- so gifted are they in imagination that and then we go out and immediately they can throw a charm of mystery against our neighbor. Yes and some- would out of nothing. And society Clear and strong is the note of times we do it before we have even speaks of them as "such social people." teaching sounded by Collect, Epistle, turned our backs upon the altar, But what is the result! Old friends

> What must be the character this law, in what we call the Chrispeople who delight in passing their ian world and among Christian time in such petty larceny? What people. I can only stop to name a few of the eminent forms of "false witness." Yet even these will give us There is first the word of deliberate cowardice, in its treachery, in its meanness, and upon which is most less mirth," no, far from it, "but the pent. He who murders truth prethem, the idle words that fall from ending to be a Christian, surely no our reckless lips and do harm to words are necessary to tell you that fellowmen, the words of slander, of

heart and that his religion is vain. But baleful as is the word of down- "A whisper broke the air, right falsehood, there is another A soft light tone and low. whose poison is even yet deadlier. I Yet barbed with shame and woe; mean the word of half-truth, spite. Now might it perish only there, ignant, spiteful word of slander. From ear to lip, from lip to ear, word may be doing its work, but you

any actidose for this poison; when

once it has entered into the ci cula-

Alas! how fearful the thought that in the last great day, when the sewanton whise ers, the e slanderous words, shall come back in echoes of tion of society you are powerless to thunder to be our accusing witnesses.

with this form of false witness are the would say beware of this cruel deadly words of insinuation. The safest and sin of false witness in a! its forms, shortest way to win a character is to whether it be the malignant cruel create a suspicion. "Suspicions" says slander or the more polished spite of for a year the time was near Eccon "are like bats among birds. the drawing room-or remember of a day longer than a year. to poison human society. Feelingly They eve. fly by twilight. There is that he who bridleth not his tongue If this fraction of a day had been perwas it said by one whose whole being nothing makes a man suspect much from utering standerous words "that mitted to run on it would have by and by them more durable. So that sprinkling nothing makes a man suspect much from utering standerous words "that mitted to run on it would have by and by them more durable. So that sprinkling nothing makes a man suspect much had smarted under such affliction: more than to know little." This act man, no matter how religious he may "Adder's poison is under their tos." is only too well understood by the seem, deceived his own heart and been celebrated by the boys on skates. Best of all, the pure green water will Well has it been said that "the e is business and social world. Well says his religion is vain." We all of us In 1582 good Pope Gregory XIII arranged be on tap in hospitals, hotels, asylums, nothing more unaccountable than the an old writer, "If your neighbor in have special temperations, per page an a more accounting for bathhouses and in private houses where spell that lurks in a spoken work A businers or social life be the object of impetuous feeling, or a harsh tone of the fraction of a day. Under the Julian ever it is wanted, so that at any mokind word has give a courage to more your dis ike then let it be carefully judgment, or perhaps that miserable calendar the odd time was called an even more than the first that miserable calendar the odd time was called an even more than the first that miserable calendar the odd time was called an even more than the first that miserable calendar the odd time was called an even more than the first than the first that miserable calendar the odd time was called an even ment, at any season of the year, a person that miserable calendar the odd time was called an even ment, at any season of the year, a person that miserable calendar the odd time was called an even ment, at any season of the year, a person that miserable calendar the odd time was called an even ment, at any season of the year, a person that miserable calendar the odd time was called an even ment, at any season of the year, a person that the carefully indicate the odd time was called an even ment, at any season of the year, a person that the carefully indicate than one despondent heart, while wispered that his affairs a e not spirit of detraction which unconstruck by a cruel word more than one conducted as carefully as they ought sciously leads us to seek to destroy allowed 29 days. But that in turn was be worth millions a year to the sanitawould but "heed not so much how we a well simed whisper will as surely wong in word or deed. How well So Pope Gregory decided that every great, purifying breath from the sea itspeak," what a mighty cloud of cor- blacken her moral beauty and leave out our special temptation and then the exception of the century years. Only to guard against it. Let us not de- century years divisible by 400 should be ceive ourselves by a vague talk about leap years. While this is still not exactfar too common among us all. It is does not meet every day the victims piety but test or words by this rule ly correct to the quarter of a second, it found in the d awing 100m as well as of these unseen wrongs? What of St. James, by the precepts of about 2,000 years from now Probable bear 7 per cent interest until it was in the kitchen, in the city and in the surer weapon than insinuation against Christ Himself. Then if we find by that time people will have found

little country village. You may re- hose who by he'r public position orrs is the "tongue void of offence, it some better way of computing time. their money back. For some reason member the words of the late Poet may not be open'y attacked without will bring us as near perfection as At present, however, it is sufficient to Venezuela has not paid. The expense Laureate of England regarding this risk but can be e. sly stabled in the our weak nature can with God's grace remember that 1900 is not divisible by attain." For as the Apost'e says "If 400 and that consequently we shall have pected it to be for one thing. Finding plicable to every town and village in of ou human nature han the readis. me is a perfect man." Then shall "Below me here is a vilage which 'oo's accept and be' eve hese slande ous we be content if malice assails us to stand in calm strength, as our Master birthday occurred on Feb. 11 instead of minister at Caracas and demanded payins puations -: sinuations too often And yet brobbes o'er like the city with tos- cast forth with maligority, and for the stood before His accusers, and say diabo'ica' purpo e o' ruining the "If I have done evil, berr witness of day the 11th. Not till 1752 did Great cruising suspiciously near the Venezucha ac.e. of one against whom they the evil; but if well why smitest thou Britain adopt the Gregorian calendar, classing suspiciously hear the venezu-

the power of the human tongue for The first celebration was at Richmond The Monroe doctrine does not interfere I know of no wo se enemy-I can a anst character than the man or good or for evil. Who can measure won the battle of Yorktown, and Feb. honest debts. Pay up, Venezuela woman who deliberately, and with make this earth a paradise for our started in up to date, and changed the the character of his fellowman. It is fellow men, or we can make it a very day to Feb. 22. Too true is it that "half the world the tong e of such people of whom Gehenna. The tongue which is takes pleasure in inventing scandal, St. James speaks when he says "the touched of God, whose utterance is pole or not, it will only be a matter of clan matter in the way toward settletakes pleasure in inventing scandal, and the other half in believing it."

the spiri-call of Heaven, an inspiration, and that not a very long time, ment, with Emperor Billee cooled down the other half in believing it."

it defilets the whole body and settets the brain throbbing when somebody will reach it. The inwith new and noble thoughts, how iself set on fi e of hell," and their

vast a power it is. Its Echoes roll from soul to soul And grow forever and forever.'

Eut there is another form of this voice hat ceased the music voices fall lized nations. lous faculty, one of the unpassed sin to which our attention needs also upon the inward ear, and time and bounds y lines between cs and the to be directed, and es ee ally so be distance reduplicate and invigorate Salisbury, and will the noble lord be though common people and reporters brute, this wrondrous gift of God has in it alike the capicity of use or abuse. The same genius that moulds it into the music of Heaven can debase it into the dialect of hell.

The same genius that the capicity of use or can debase it into the dialect of hell.

The same genius that the most of the magical purity of the effect. But the tongue which is set in fire of hell, impure, rancorous, bitter, hiding poison in its soft speeches, the tongue that runs through the world and is a send to his Uncle Sam copies of all officence.

The same genius that the mobile lord be though common people and reporters the magical purity of the effect. But the mough to oblige his Uncle Sam by forwarding any documents that will throw light on the Venezuelan boundary question? Lord Salisbury scompliments to Secretary Olivey, and Sal will at once and then have enough left. within and each has its abiding result. idle but tatters also, and busy bodies' are tempted to speak evil of our It is "psychic epilepsy," whatever they looking for so long inside of ten years. idle word that men shall speak they

Are War Debts a Necessity?

commence to bear false witness over the slenderest fac.s and create a war loan. Mr. Ridpath says: "Let no ruling and undeviating principle of his

such a man has deceived his own selfish suspicion, of slimy deforms

lating and perpetuating it. To each one of you, my friends, I 48 minutes 48 seconds. Astronom

year and give to February 29 days with rangements in all American cities on or

no more leap years or 29 day Februaries

Like the sweet and solemn reverb- which he is a citizen, unless it can be and money making again. erations of the Alpine horn in moun- shown to be a prolongation of some tain solitudes long after the authentic region already held by one of the civi-

The doctors have a new disease now. long. It is quite probable that he him-self will find the secret he has been whom they call cranks for the word

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week. If this be true, Germany will ave an advantage over other nations

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there is land at the pole the individual done his little republic during the who first sets foot on it will take posses- Jameson raid, the world bids fair to sion of it in the name of the country of settle quietly to the vocations of peace

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gende spit has sobbed iself into to be, or his habits a little question the equiation of the largest city of the world. It If you buy any article second grade, don't the gr. ve." Ah, my friends, it we able. It a woman hate her frir rival not like, that leads us into continual ing behind under the Julian calendar. will sweep through the slums like a let it be hardware. Poor hardware is one does it behoove us each one to search year divisible by 4 should be a leap self. Why cannot we have the same ar-

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